Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Maritime Operations

PROVIDING AN ASYMMETRIC WARFIGHTING ADVANTAGE



Maritime Operations: The Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command provides timely and accurate weather and ocean products to ensure safe and efficient ship operations. Key components of Maritime Operations mission are ship routing, forecasts and warnings and support for ice operations.

Significant contributions to maritime safety and efficiency include:

- Optimum Track Ship Routing (OTSR). OTSR is an enroute weather
 forecasting service to support trans-oceanic transits and coastal operations
 of Navy and naval support ships. Meteorology and oceanography personnel
 advise Commanding Officers and Ship Masters at sea, providing weather
 advisories and storm evasion recommendations to avoid hazardous weather.
 OTSR services also include sortie recommendations for potentially damaging
 weather conditions in port. Additionally, OTSR provides climatologic outlooks
 for preliminary transit and mission planning.
- Delivery of tropical cyclone forecasts, warnings and other products.
 Established by the U.S. Pacific Command and jointly manned with U.S. Air Force personnel, the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) located in Pearl Harbor Hawaii is an internationally recognized tropical cyclone forecasting agency.
- Ship weather forecasts (WEAX).
- Aviation weather forecasts for ship-based helicopters (AVWX).
- High wind and seas warnings, special weather advisories and local area warnings.
- Ice analysis and forecasting by the National Ice Center, a joint operation of the Naval Ice Center, U.S. Coast Guard and NOAA.
- Operational Weather Briefs for other Maritime Operations to include Navy and U.S. Coast Guard Search and Rescue (SAR).
- Joint Operational Area Forecasts (JOAF) for Commanders operating in Littoral regions.

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